

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Reach out to Colin Bennett for Production Photos.

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FINDING NEVERLAND

BELIEVE IN YOUR IMAGINATION ONCE MORE!

Phoenix, AZ – January 2, 2019 – FINDING NEVERLAND, the musical that made us all believe in our imagination, will be making its way to Phoenix's Orpheum Theatre January 10 – 12. Tickets for **FINDING NEVERLAND** are available online at BroadwayOrpheum.com [americantheatreguild.com] and Phoenix.Ticketforce.com [phoenix.ticketforce.com], at the Convention Center Box Office-West Building, 100 N 3rd Street or by calling 602.262.7272. Ticket prices start at \$45.25. Groups of 10+ call 1.866.314.7687.

Based on the Academy® Award-winning Miramax motion picture by David Magee, and the play THE MAN WHO WAS PETER PAN by Allan Knee, **FINDING NEVERLAND** follows the relationship between playwright J.M. Barrie and the family that inspired Peter Pan, or *The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up* – one of the most beloved stories of all time. Diane Paulus' **FINDING NEVERLAND** will have her direction recreated by Tour Director Mia Walker (who also directed the 2017 PIPPIN tour) and Associate Choreographer Camden Loeser. The musical has a book by Olivier Award® nominee James Graham, music and lyrics by Gary Barlow (*Take That*) and Grammy Award® winner Eliot Kennedy, and original choreography by Emmy Award® winner Mia Michaels ("So You Think You Can Dance," Cirque du Soleil's *Delirium*). **FINDING NEVERLAND** is packed with mesmerizing visuals, irresistible songs and plenty of laughs making it a timeless story about the power of imagination.

The winner of the Broadway.com Audience Choice Award for Best Musical, this breathtaking smash “captures the kid-at-heart,” says *TIME Magazine*. **FINDING NEVERLAND** tells the incredible story of how playwright J.M. Barrie struggles to find inspiration until he meets four young brothers and their beautiful widowed mother. Spellbound by the boys’ enchanting make-believe adventures, he sets out to write a play that will astound London theatergoers. With a little bit of pixie dust and a lot of faith, Barrie takes this monumental leap, leaving his old world behind for Neverland, where nothing is impossible, and the wonder of childhood lasts forever. The magic of Barrie’s classic tale springs spectacularly to life in this heartwarming theatrical event. Critics raved that **FINDING NEVERLAND** is “far and away the best musical of the year!” (NPR) and *Vogue* cheered, “It’s a must-see you’ll remember for years to come!”

The production will star Mark Bacon as J.M. Barrie, Josephine Florence Cooper as Sylvia Llewelyn Davies (the boys’ mother) and Kirk Lawrence as the Producer Charles Frohman and Captain Hook. Mr. Bacon’s selected credits include *BRIGADOON* (Tommy), *HAIRSPRAY* (Link), *HEATHERS* (Hipster, JD understudy), *ALL SHOOK UP* (Chad), and *MAMMA MIA!* (Sky). **Ms. Cooper has performed in the tours or Off- Broadway in** *GIRLS NIGHT*, *LA STORIA DI COLAPESCE*, *NIGHT WITCHES*, and *THE DREAM PROJECT*. Her TV and film credits include Comedy Central and *Uncanny Harbor*. Mr. Lawrence has performed with the national tour of *THE WIZARD OF OZ* as Professor Marvel and The Wizard, and regionally played the roles of Doc in *WEST SIDE STORY*, Mr. Carnes in *OKLAHOMA*, Mr. Potter in *A WONDERFUL LIFE*, and Todd in *SWEENEY TODD*. DESIRÉE DILLON performs with the tour as Mrs. du Maurier. Winner of the International Crescendo Music Awards and Mario Lanza and Elaine Malbin Vocal Competition in New York City. Her regional credits include *SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE*, *MARY POPPINS*, and *ANYTHING GOES*.

Of course, the young Davies boys and the loveable pooch that portrays Pothos are the other stars of the show! The young performers who will bring your favorite youngsters to life are playing multiple roles in the show. The boys include Brycton Archer who will portray George, Ashton Heathcoat will play the roles of Jack and Michael, Dylan Jacob Loraw will play Peter, Jack and George, Jack Packer will play George, Peter and Jack, and Nicholas Reed will play the roles of Michael, Jack and Peter. The part of Pothos will be

played by a young and very lively Golden Doodle named Oscar who even gets his own travel van!

The ensemble cast includes Timothe Bittle, Nicholas Karl Brown, Dani Ciaramitano, Morgan Gillott, Nathan Edward Groth, Jake Kinney, Elizabeth Lester, Ashley McCormack, Justin Miller, Maddie Parrish, Jonathan Ragsdale, Justine Rima, Connor Simpson, Braden Sweeney and Ashleigh Thompson.

FINDING NEVERLAND is produced by APEX Touring, who is highlighting their fourth national tour season with the international tour of THE WIZARD OF OZ, FINDING NEVERLAND and ONCE THE MUSICAL. Past tours include 2019 tour of *THE WIZARD OF OZ*, the 2018 tour of *CABARET* and 2017 tour of *PIPPIN*.

Performance Schedule for FINDING NEVERLAND at the Orpheum Theatre:

Friday, January 10, 2020 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11, 2020 – 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

Please Note: Phoenix.Ticketforce.com [phoenix.ticketforce.com], BroadwayOrpheum.com [broadwayorpheum.com], and the Phoenix Convention Center Box Office-West Building are the only official sources for tickets to all shows in the **2019–20 Broadway At The Orpheum Theatre Series**. If you purchase tickets through another source, you may pay over-inflated prices and your tickets will not be guaranteed.

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The **2019–20 Broadway At The Orpheum Theatre Series** is brought to you by the Renaissance Phoenix Downtown Hotel.

The American Theatre Guild, a 501(c)(3) organization and the largest not-for-profit touring Broadway Presenter in the nation, supports Broadway seasons in twelve markets including Birmingham, AL; Colorado Springs, CO; Eugene, OR; Kansas City, MO; Lubbock, TX;

Phoenix, AZ; Riverside, CA; Santa Barbara, CA; South Bend, IN; Thousand Oaks, CA; Toledo, OH; and Wichita, KS. The American Theatre Guild is dedicated to providing the experience of live theater in order to foster passion, inspire creativity and empower youth within each community.

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"The American Theatre Guild is a non-profit national theatrical presenter dedicated to providing the experience of live theatre to foster passion, inspire creativity and empower youth within our communities."

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